# Agriculture Improving Air Quality



Arizona Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Consultation and Training Program



Tel: (602) 542-3484

Arizona Department of Agriculture Agricultural Consultation and Traini 1688 West Adams Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

## What are some ways to reduce agricultural PM<sub>10</sub>?

- ♦ Limit activity during high wind events
- ♦ Grow a multi-year crop
- ♦ Create an artificial wind barrier
- Apply an aggregate cover to unpaved farm roads and parking areas
- ♦ Limit bare soil by sequential cropping
- ♦ Till soil surface to maintain large clods of soil



This document available in alternative formats by contacting the agency's ADA Coordinator at (602) 542-4316 (Voice) or 1-800-367-3839 (TTY Relay).

### What is PM<sub>10</sub>?

Particulate matter consists of very small particles floating in the air. Of greatest concern to public health are the particles small enough to be inhaled into the deepest parts of the lungs. These particles are less than 10 microns in diameter – about 1/7th the thickness of a human hair – and are known as PM<sub>10</sub>.

 $PM_{10}$  is a component of air pollution that threatens both our health and our environment.

### Where does PM<sub>10</sub> come from?

PM<sub>10</sub> emissions come from many sources including wild fires, diesel exhaust, aircraft and activities that disturb the soil such as unpaved roads, vacant lots, construction sites and agriculture.



### How is agricultural PM<sub>10</sub> being addressed?

The Governor's Agricultural Best Management Practices Committee developed an agricultural PM<sub>10</sub> general permit that contains best management practices (BMPs) for agricultural activities in the Maricopa County PM<sub>10</sub> nonattainment area. The BMPs are intended to reduce particulate emissions from tilling and harvesting activities on cropland and from noncropland areas such as farm roads and ditch banks. Implementation of BMPs is a feasible, effective and common sense practice to improve air quality.

### Where can I learn more?

You can learn more about regulated agricultural activities and PM<sub>10</sub> Best Management Practices by contacting Marcia Colquitt, Field Consultant, at the Arizona Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Consultation and Training Program at:

(602) 542-3484

or

(800) 294-0308

toll-free outside the Phoenix area

marcia.colquitt@agric.state.az.us

The Agricultural Consultation and Training Program is a voluntary and non-regulatory compliance assistance program for commercial farmers.

www.agriculture.state.az.us/ACT

### On-Site Visit Request

Check items you are interested in receiving

more information on.
☐ AG PM <sub>10</sub> General Permit requirements in Maricopa County PM <sub>10</sub> non-attainment area
☐ AG BMP implementation options
☐ Federal, state and local air quality regulation
☐ Identification of compliance difficulties
Dust control alternatives for non-cropland
Date
Contact Name
Business Name
Mailing Address
Physical Address
Phone
E-mail Address

#### Mail or Fax Request Form to:

Arizona Department of Agriculture Agricultural Consultation and Training 1688 West Adams Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Fax: (602) 364-0830